



LAUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 12th February 2020 at 7pm.

Present: (Chairman) Cllr Dart, Cllr Weller (Vice Chairman), Cllr Breeds, Cllr Crozier and Cllr Poore

4 Members of the public present

Cllr Weller sent apologies - she will be slightly late to the meeting

1. PUBLIC SESSION

Two members of the public wished to discuss the agenda item 9.8 Pelham Field

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Hallam, Cllr Cook, Cllr Bennett (East Sussex County Council) and Cllr Watts (Wealden District Council)

3. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Cllr Dart has personal interest in planning application WD/2020/0076/F as she knows the applicant.

4. MEMBERS TO AGREE CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS ON THE AGENDA FOR THE EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

Members agreed agenda item 9.9 should be discussed confidentially. This item will be moved to end of the agenda.

5. TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES FROM THE LAUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 15th JANUARY 2020.

The Minutes were agreed and signed accordingly

6. EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL AND WEALDEN DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORTS

ESCC – No Report - A budget report was sent prior to the meeting which will be placed on the website.

WDC – No Report

7. PLANNING,

a) Plans

WD/2020/0040/F - WOODSIDE FARM, BROOMHAM LANE, WHITESMITH, BN8 6JQ

Description: THREE BAY DETACHED GARAGE

Laughton Parish Council objects because of the cumulative impact of all the redevelopment which has taken place at "Woodside Farm" including Rose Green. This is already far in excess of any agricultural or Lawful Development buildings on the site. If the planners are minded to grant permission then the Parish Council wants the ridge height of the garage reduced to one more appropriate for a garage i.e. below 4m, and for the building to be tightly conditioned so that it cannot subsequently be converted into yet more residential accommodation, ancillary to the host dwelling or otherwise, nor used for any business purposes.

b) To consider any planning applications which have been received after the agenda has been published.

WD/2020/0076/F – ELM TREE COTTAGE, COMMON LANE, LAUGHTON, BN8 6BX – NEW REPLACEMENT DWELLING.

Cllr Weller entered the meeting at 19.17pm

Laughton Parish Council approves the application in principle. The unsustainability of the existing house is accepted and therefore so is the requirement for a replacement dwelling. However, members felt the substantial increase in square footage and the bulky appearance of the proposal is not in character with the locality.

c) Planning applications refused, approved, referred, withdrawn or appeals

WD/2019/2390/LDE – Issued

WD/2019/2444/F – Approved

WD/2019/2585/F – Approved

Members noted these decisions

d) To note approved responses to applications and appeals approved by email

None

e) Other planning matters- To discuss or note any other planning matters brought to the attention of the Parish Council.

- **Chelwood Pound Lane** – *No further action is required at present*
- **Parish Panel meeting dates** – *Members discussed possible attendance at the meetings. The Clerk will recirculate the dates to all members.*

8. FINANCIAL MATTERS- Authorisation of payment of Accounts – to approve accounts for payment – (a Schedule of Receipts & Payments will be presented at meeting) – List of payments on separate sheet

- **February Payments** - *These payments were approved.*

9. ITEMS FOR DECISION AND ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES

This item was brought forward for the members of the public

9.8– Pelham Field – *Cllr Dart gave a brief outline of what stage Laughton Parish Council is at this present time. At the last meeting a document was circulated and published outlining the project. The Clerk is currently waiting for a response from Lord Chichester’s solicitor and then quotes can be obtained. A response from ESCC is also awaited.*

The meeting was suspended and a member of the public spoke.

Mrs West informed members she is very grateful for the document and would like to get the matter resolved as soon as possible so not to lose funding.

Members informed Mrs West the delay was due to ESCC’s recent late response and until further responses have been received no decision can be made.

Meeting resumed

1 member of the public left the meeting

9.1 - Village Maintenance – *The Clerk informed members the new bins have been ordered.*

9.2– Playground Maintenance – *No further update at this present time.*

9.3 – Conflict of interest policy for volunteers co-opted to Parish Council Roles– *Cllr Dart circulated some comments. However, members agreed the policy needed further adaption and this is to be reviewed at the next meeting.*

9.4 – Speed Related Issues/concerns in Laughton & B2124 – *Cllr Hallam is due to have a meeting with the highways officer. Members noted the quotation for the works to be carried out on the B2124 has been sent to the contractor.*

9.5 – Funding for Parish environmental works – *Members agreed to apply for a grant to repair parts of Brickhurst Pond and remove the rabbit fencing on Pelham Field. Councillors will circulate any further ideas to be included on the grant. The Clerk will circulate the grant application for agreement before being submitted.*

9.6 – To discuss actioning a good neighbour scheme initiative - *This is presently on going and a meeting is being arranged.*

9.7 – Neighbourhood Watch - *Due to the recent bout of thefts from garages and outbuildings in the area, a discussion took place on how information could be circulated to residents. It was agreed that an article would be written for the Parish Magazine.*

The meeting was suspended and a member of the public spoke about a phone app which could be used to circulate information.

Meeting resumed

Members thought this was a good idea and to investigate this further for the next meeting.

9.9 – Clerk’s Salary review – This has been agreed to be discussed at the end of the meeting.

10. ITEMS FOR UPDATING AND NOTING

10.1– Noise pollution – *Cllr Weller explained the recent hearing outcome of the Mucky Weekender. The licence has agreed to be granted with conditions. Laughton Parish Council is inviting Mr Richard Parker Harding, Head of Environmental Services to both Wealden and Rother District Council to come and discuss the conditions and how they are going to be monitored and enforced. The Clerk will action this request.*

10.2- Water – *The proposed work is still presently scheduled for March to replace the main water pipes.*

10.3– Great British Spring Clean – *Cllr Crozier has registered with Great British Spring Clean. If anyone would like to assist please contact Cllr Crozier. Adverts will also be placed on the website and Parish magazine. If anyone would like to collect litter at any other time of the year this would be appreciated and welcomed. If you could also contact Cllr Crozier in regards to this for the equipment required.*

10.4 - Footbridge – *The Clerk received an email from a parishioner regarding a broken bridge on a footpath. The Clerk contacted the rights of way team and they have since contacted the Clerk asking for further information on this bridge as it may not be part of ESCC. The Clerk will forward this email to Cllr Crozier to confirm the location.*

11 - CORRESPONDENCE

For noting (Previously Circulated or request a copy to be sent)

- The January Wealden Parish Bulletin
- News from Nus Ghani MP
- Police and Crime precept snap poll

Members noted the correspondence

11.1- Correspondence after the agenda was published

- Funding available for Youth Clubs in England - Imminent Deadline
- Great British Spring Clean
- Letter regarding maintenance work on the river – received by post and scanned to all members.

Members noted the correspondence

12- REPORTS (by leave) NOT FOR DECISION

Cllr Weller suggested keeping a record of traffic accidents that occur around Laughton to coincide with the speed related issues. The clerk will place this on the agenda for the next full council meeting.

Annual Parish meeting and a parish newsletter to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

Loss access of footpaths to be placed on the agenda for the next full council meeting.

3 members of the public left meeting

9.9 – Clerk’s Salary review

The Clerk left the meeting

Members agreed to increased the Clerks salary by one-point scale and be backdate to the 1st February 2020. Also, to make sure the overtime is paid at the same rate as the basic salary.

The Clerk re-entered the meeting.

Meeting closed at 20.28pm